New Coach repair workshops in the country

2221. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up some new coach repair workshops in the country;

(b) if so, what are the names of the places where such workshops are proposed to be set up; and

(c) what steps have been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Budgetary support to National Airports Authority

2222. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are giving any budgetary support to the National Airports Authority for the maintenance of airports;

(b) if not, whether there is any proposal to give such support to the National Airports Authority;

(c) whether there is any proposal to permit the National Airports Authority to charge from airlines for the services rendered to them; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Under the National Airports Authority Act-1985, the National Airports Authority is levying various charges namely Route Navigation Facility Charges, Landing Charges and Terminal Landing Charges for the services rendered to the airlines for safe air navigation and use of airport facilities. These charges are reviewed from time to time. At the time of revision of the charges, the interest of the users are also given due consideration.

Expenditure on Nutritional Programme

2223. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what percentage of expenditure is borne by the Central Government on the nutritional programme in the country;

(b) whether seventy per cent of the amount is spent on salary and administration;

(c) what percentage is incurred on providing nutrition to children; and

(d) what changes are being contemplated to ensure that greater part of the Central assistance or whole of it is spent on providing nutrition to the children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Cost of nutrition in the Nutrition programmes including that in the nutrition component of the Integrated Child Development Services Programmes is the responsibility of the State Governments. However, in the Centrally Sponsored Wheat Based Nutrition Programme applicable to pre-school children and nursing/expectant mothers of the weaker sections of society in tribal areas, urban slums and backward rural areas, central assistance at the rate of 50 paise per beneficiary per day is provided to the State/Union Territory Governments towards the cost of wheat and other ingredients as also the processing cost.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Almost eighty per cent of Central assistance is earmarked for the nutrition component of the Wheat-Based Nutrition Programme.

Cancellation of passenger trains in Orissa and Bihar

2224. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of passenger trains cancelled during 1986 and 1987 in Orissa and Bihar, respectively together with the reasons therefor;

(b) what is the number of trains, restored out of them, so far; and

(c) by when the remaining trains are expected to be restored?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) Trains are not run/cancelled statewise. Hence, these statistics are not maintained state-wise.

Festivals of India in USA and France

2225. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 15th June, 1988 to the effect that there have been large scale irregularities in the expenditure incurred on the festivals of India held in France and US, recently;

(b) what budget provisions was made for these Festivals and the actual expenditure incurred;

(c) what are the reasons for a high expenditure; and

(d) whether any inquiry has been conducted in the matter and if so, what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The budget provision was Rs. 535.60 lakhs for the Festival of India in France and USA. The expenditure was Rs. 526.81 lakhs.

(c) The expenditure on these Festivals was well within the budget provision.

(d) Does not arise.

Expansion of the short distance Vayudoot flights

2226. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has not been very enthusiastic about the expansion of short distance flights by Vayudoot;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this refusal is likely to affect the expansion of Vayudoot operations in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, what action is being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) he Planning Commission has not been against expansion of short distance flights by Vayudoot. However, they are of the opinion that since such operations increase fuel consumption per Revenue Passenger Kilometre which would in turn necessitate higher passenger fares, the situation needs to be avoided.

(c) and (d) The services operated by Vayudoot are mostly of short-haul nature. They are operating to seven stations in Andhra Pradesh itself. Due